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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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INFORMATION
November 10, 1973

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

BRENT SCOWCROFT 

Following is a report to you from Dr. Kissinger regarding his initial meeting with the Chinese.

- "1. We have received our usual cordial welcome here. Five Chinese officials flew to Pakistan to accompany us and we were greeted with warmth at the airport and by Chou at the Great Hall. We had a half hour semi-social plenary session with Chou before a welcoming banquet and then I had a half hour private bilateral with Chou afterwards.
2. During the pre-dinner talk Chou made clear their admiration for your firm action with regard to the Middle East alert versus the Soviets and approved our efforts to search for a just settlement in the region. We both agreed that the ceasefire was just a beginning. As usual he grasped the essential strategic implication of the Middle East situation; clearly approves our countering Moscow's influence in the area; and welcomed our resistance to Soviet offers for a joint U.S.-Soviet presence there. He also applauded our reestablishing diplomatic relations with Egypt.
3. The banquet, attended by Chou and other top officials, but hosted by the Foreign Minister for protocol reasons, was large and their band played American songs. In our toasts the Foreign Minister and I both struck positive notes about our relations; I said that we intended to move toward normalization "as rapidly as possible."
4. After dinner I had a frank exchange with Chou alone about the strategic situation internationally. I sketched once again our basic perspective and our intentions.

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5. It is too early to tell how this visit will go. We meet again tomorrow afternoon. So far there are no unusual signs and our reception has been as friendly as it has ever been.

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